

## Environmental Protection Act 1986

Section 43A

## NOTICE OF DECISION TO CONSENT TO CHANGE TO PROPOSAL DURING ASSESSMENT

## PERSON TO WHOM THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN

Synman Van Straaten Manager Access and Approvals: West APA Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pty Ltd (ABN: 33 646 298 142) Level 5/223 Adelaide Terrace **PERTH WA 6000** 

## **PROPOSAL TO WHICH THIS NOTICE RELATES:**

Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pipeline Assessment No. 2284

Pursuant to section 43A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) consents to the proponent making the following changes to the proposal during assessment without a revised proposal being referred:

- 1) Buried NGI Pipeline disturbance footprint A reduction of the disturbance footprint from 2,287 ha to 2,261.5 ha within a development envelope of 12,404 ha. Following a review of the construction methodology and consideration of sensitive areas, the pipeline alignment has been further refined resulting in a reduction in the clearing of native vegetation from 1,934 ha to 1,930 ha.
- 2) Construction right of way The disturbance footprint has been reduced to 1,840.5 ha from 1,850 ha. Of this, 1,519.5 ha is native vegetation.
- 3) Pipeline laydown area and construction facilities The disturbance footprint has been reduced from 395 ha to 377 ha. Of this, 369.5 ha is native vegetation.
- 4) Construction access points The disturbance footprint has increased from 42 ha to 44 ha. Of this, 41 ha is native vegetation.

## **EFFECT OF THIS NOTICE:**

1. The EPA considers that the change is unlikely to significantly increase any impact that the proposal may have on the environment. The proponent may change the proposal as provided for in this notice.

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## **RIGHTS OF APPEAL:**

There are no rights of appeal under the EP Act in respect of this decision.

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Professor Matthew Tonts Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority CHAIR

1 September 2021

## Schedule 1

# Change to Proposal

Element	Location	Proposed Extent
Physical elements		
Buried gas pipeline	Linear infrastructure extending the length of the development envelope. Figure 1	<ul> <li>Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to approximately 2,261.5 ha, comprised of approximately:</li> <li>1,930 ha of native vegetation; and</li> <li>331.5 ha of cleared land/pasture.</li> <li>Within this, the aboveground facilities will require the following:</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Aboveground facilities, including:</li> <li>Rosewick offtake; Ambania compressor station;</li> <li>Yoweragabbie scraper station;</li> <li>Mainline valve stations;</li> <li>Wildara delivery station; and</li> <li>Weebo Inlet Station</li> </ul>	Located at various locations along the pipeline. The location of the Yoweragabbie Scraper Station will have suitable land available for the future option of the installation of an adjoining compressor station.	<ul> <li>Rosewick offtake – disturbance of up to 0.1 ha;</li> <li>Ambania compressor station – disturbance of up to 4.1 ha;</li> <li>Yoweragabbie scraper station – disturbance of up to 1.1 ha (inclusive of allowance for a future compressor);</li> <li>Mainline valve stations – total disturbance of up to 0.6 ha;</li> <li>Wildara delivery station – disturbance of up to 0.5 ha; and</li> <li>Weebo inlet station– disturbance of up to 0.1 ha.</li> </ul>
Construction elements		
Construction right of way (CROW), construction turnaround and passing bays and work areas, e.g. for underboring (i.e. horizontal directional drilling)	Located adjacent to the pipeline during construction.	Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to approximately <b>1,840.5 ha</b> . The clearing or disturbance will be located within native vegetation (approximately 1,519.5 ha) and cleared land/pasture (approximately 321 ha) Generally a 30 m wide corridor with extra areas for turnarounds and work areas
Pipeline laydown areas and construction facilities, including construction camps with mobile offices and ablutions, and equipment laydown areas	Where practicable, the pipeline laydown areas and temporary construction areas will be located in areas of existing disturbance. Up to six construction camps are proposed to support the Proposal. The construction camps will be	Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to <b>377 ha</b> . The clearing or disturbance will be located within native vegetation (approximately 369.5 ha) and cleared land/pasture (approximately 7.5 ha). Up to six construction camps may be required, each with associated offices, ablutions and laydown areas.

	located within the development envelope or broader surrounds. In those circumstances where the camps are located external to the development envelope, they will be in existing cleared areas. The mobile offices and equipment laydown areas will be situated within the	
	broader surrounds. In those circumstances where the camps are located external to the development envelope, they will be in existing cleared areas. The mobile offices and equipment laydown areas will be	
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	construction camps.	
Turkey nests	Located adjacent to the	Up to approximately eight turkey nests may be required for the Proposal. Each
	pipeline during	turkey nest is anticipated to be approximately 110 m x 90 m.
	construction.	tarkey heat is anticipated to be approximately 110 m x 30 m.
Construction access points/trocks	The access points/tracks	Clearing or disturbance of up to <b>44 ha</b> may be cleared for construction access.
Construction access points/tracks		Cleaning of disturbance of up to 44 ha may be cleared for construction access.
	will provide access to the	The election on disturbance will be broated within patient constation (constation to be
	CROW. Construction	The clearing or disturbance will be located within native vegetation (approximately
	access will preferentially	41 ha) and cleared land/pasture (approximately 3 ha)
	use existing tracks, where	
	possible. Existing tracks	
	may require improvement	
	works, including widening,	
	to facilitate access of	
	larger vehicles (trucks)	
	and	
	machinery/equipment.	
Groundwater bore(s)	If required, a groundwater	The groundwater bore would be constructed in an existing cleared area on
	bore would be within the	agreement with the landholder. No clearing of remnant native vegetation is
	vicinity of the Ambania	anticipated.
	compressor station. Any	
	other additional	
	groundwater bores, if	
	required along the NGI	
	pipeline, will be identified	
	by the construction	
	Contractor and subject to	
	a water licence	
	groundwater bores, if required along the NGI pipeline, will be identified by the construction	

Operational elements			
Operation of the constructed NGI pipeline and associated above ground facilities		APA will operate the pipeline system in accordance with regulatory and APA standards, and standard management and maintenance practices.	
Operations right of way (ROW)	Located adjacent to the asbuilt NGI pipeline centreline	The operational area for the pipeline will generally require a 4 m wide access track located adjacent the pipeline warning markers and a mulched/cleared section over the buried pipeline. The access track will be maintained as a ROW along the NGI pipeline to provide access for operational site maintenance, including servicing, equipment and integrity checks and general site maintenance. The ROW will be located within the Pipeline Licence area. The establishment of the operational ROW will be limited in the western section of the pipeline (between approximately KP0 to KP80) to minimise the alignment's intersection with agricultural properties. It is anticipated that the operational ROW will have a disturbance area of approximately 200 ha.	



Figure 1: Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pipeline



### Environmental Protection Act 1986

#### Section 43A

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### CONSENT TO CHANGE PROPOSAL DURING ASSESSMENT

Proposal: Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pipeline

Proponent: APA Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pty Ltd

#### Decision

For the reasons outlined below, the EPA has determined to consent to the proponent changing the proposal outlined in Schedule 1 attached to this Statement of Reasons.

#### Background

On 25 January 2021, APA Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pty Ltd (the proponent) referred the proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under section 38 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The proposal involves the construction and operation of a 300 mm diameter buried gas pipeline (NGI pipeline). The pipeline will commence at Ambania, 50 km east of Geraldton (Mid-West Region) and continue for 580 km, terminating 40 km south of Leinster (Northern Goldfields) (Figure 1). The project will connect existing gas assets in the two regions with the aim of providing a reliable and increased supply of gas to industries in the area.

The proposal is linear in nature and includes associated aboveground infrastructure, including a compressor station at Ambania and other stations such as valve stations, scraper stations etc, at various locations along the pipeline.

The EPA determined to assess the proposal at the level of Referral Information (with additional information required) on 25 February 2021. The preliminary key environmental factors for this proposal are flora and vegetation, terrestrial fauna, social surroundings (Aboriginal Heritage) and greenhouse gas emissions (from implementation of the proposal and anticipated scope 3 emissions).

In advance of the EPA preparing a report on the outcome of its assessment of the proposal, the proponent has sought the EPA's consent to the proponent changing the proposal. The proponent has sought to change the proposal in order to minimise impacts and disturbance to Aboriginal heritage sites identified as a result of the surveys.

The s43A change will result in a reduction of the disturbance footprint from 2,287 ha to 2,261.5 ha within a development envelope of 12,404 ha. The amount of native vegetation that will be cleared has been reduced from 1,934 ha at referral to 1,930 ha. Overall, there is a reduction of 4 ha of native vegetation which will be cleared.

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The changes will result in a reduction in direct impacts by:

- 0.46 ha within the Priority 3 'Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt' ecological community (reduced to clearing of 0.28 ha of native vegetation) (Figure 2)
- 73.4 ha of the Acacia/Eremophila Shrubland locally significant vegetation types of AcOS, ACESpS and ASpTS (reduced to clearing of 1,391.8 ha native vegetation)
- 0.45 ha of Carnaby's black cockatoo habitat (reduced to clearing of 0.25 ha of native vegetation)
- 0.7 ha of brush-tailed mulgara habitat (reduced to clearing of 42.9 ha of habitat)
- 2.6 ha of gilled slender blue-tongue habitat (reduced to clearing of 180.4 ha of habitat).

At referral, 36 Aboriginal heritage sites were identified within the disturbance footprint. As a result of consultative surveys and refinement of the pipeline alignment, the number of heritage sites within the disturbance footprint has been reduced to 11.

## **Relevant Statutory and Administrative Provisions**

Section 3.8 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Part IV Divisions 1 and 2) Procedures Manual 2016 guides what information the EPA requires from a person wanting to change its proposal during assessment.

The proponent is required to provide:

- details of the proposed change
- statement of the significance of the change and
- rationale for the change.

## Materials considered in making this decision

In determining whether to consent to the proponent changing the proposal the EPA has considered the following:

- 1. APA Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pty Ltd, Section 43A (s. 43A) request (Doc. No. WNG-LT-323 (30 July 2021; 20 August 2021; 27 August 2021)
- 2. APA Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pty Ltd, Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pipeline EPA Referral Supporting Document (Doc. No. 20199-RP-HSE-0001)
- 3. Surveys reports, specifically Focus Vision Consulting (FVC) Northern Goldfields Interconnect (NGI) Pipeline Project, Supplementary Targeted Flora Surveys (Eremaean Region) Report Ref. APA12001.4\_MEM\_Rev1
- 4. Clarification emails supporting the proponents Request to Change the proposal via section 43A of the EP Act
- 5. Public submissions and the proponent's response to the submissions
- 6. EPA Guidance and procedures.
- 7. Peer reviewed articles (ZooKeys 756: 1 121(2018)).

## Consideration

1. Nature of the proposed change

Reduction in the extent of the disturbance footprint

Since referral, the proponent has further reviewed the construction methodology for the NGI pipeline. Additional mitigation measures to avoid and minimise impacts to areas of high conservation value, Aboriginal heritage sites and areas of cultural significance have been applied in response to comments received from the EPA and the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. The result is a reduction in the total native vegetation to be cleared by 4 ha.

The changes include:

- a decrease in the pipeline disturbance footprint from 2,286 ha to 2,261.5 ha
- a decrease in net native vegetation clearing from 1,934 ha to 1,930 ha.
  - final clearing of 0.28 ha of Priority 3 Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt PEC (a reduction of 0.46 ha since referral)
  - final clearing of 0.3 ha of Vegetation Association 687 (Avon Wheatbelt IBRA region)
  - final clearing of 4.3 ha of Vegetation Association 676 (Avon Wheatbelt IBRA region)
  - final clearing of Acacia/Eremophila Shrubland of 1,391.8 ha (a reduction of 73.4 ha).

The changes will also result in the clearing of:

- 0.25 ha of Carnaby's black cockatoo habitat (a reduction of 0.45 ha)
- 42.9 ha brush-tailed mulgara (P4) habitat (reduction of 0.7 ha)
- 180.4 ha of gilled slender blue-tongue (VU) habitat (a reduction of 2.6 ha)
- 1,251 ha of mallee fowl foraging habitat (a reduction of 47 ha)
- 69.9 ha of mallee fowl breeding habitat (an increase of 0.9 ha)
- 0.7 ha of long-tailed dunnart (P4) habitat (an increase of 0.1 ha)
- 145.4 ha of northern shield-trapdoor spider (P3) habitat (an increase of 42.9 ha).

At referral 36 Aboriginal heritage sites were identified within the disturbance footprint. As a result of consultative surveys and refinement of the NGI pipeline alignment the number of sites has been reduced to 11.

The changes to the pipeline disturbance footprint are considered unlikely to result in any significant additional impact on flora and vegetation, terrestrial fauna, or social surroundings. The change is primarily a reduction of 4 ha in the clearing of native vegetation.

2. <u>Stage of the assessment process</u>

The proposal is presently under assessment (stage 3). Level of assessment was set at Referral Information with Additional Information required. The Additional Information was published on the 14 June 2021 for a two week public review.

The next step is for the EPA to commence preparation of its Assessment Report and to submit it to the Minister for Environment.

#### 3. <u>Currency</u>, relevance and reliability of the information, including submissions

The proposal was referred to the EPA in January 2021. Since referral, the proponent has completed additional infill surveys of the development envelope. In August 2021 the proponent undertook additional targeted surveys to address the extent, and confirmation of, additional priority flora species. The surveys included

the mapping of the vegetation units at a local scale. The original data was based on regional mapping.

Archaeological and ethnographic surveys were completed for the entire 580 km NGI pipeline. Consultation in respect to avoidance and minimisation of impacts to cultural values and heritage sites is ongoing.

EPA Services considers the environmental surveys that have been undertaken to date are current and relevant to the proposal.

#### 4. Community engagement

The proponent began their engagement with representatives of the eight Traditional Owner groups in June 2020 as part of the planning of the project and seeking feedback on the alignment of the NGI pipeline. The EPA notes that the proponent is committed to ongoing consultation with the Traditional Owner groups during the construction of the NGI pipeline to further avoid and minimise impacts to culturally significant heritage sites, where possible.

#### 5. Level of public concern

Following the 7 day public comment period, 155 submissions were received, 150 requesting a public environmental review. Key issues raised included the potential for increased greenhouse gas emissions (scope 3) from implementation of the proposal. The changes to the proposal will not result in changes to the scope 3 emissions.

During the two week public review of the additional information (14 June 2021 to 28 June 2021), three submissions were received from the public. Two of the submissions were concerned primarily with greenhouse gas emissions. The third related to heritage concerns.

Traditional Owner groups had also raised issues with the proposal and have presented these to the proponent. The changes to the NGI pipeline alignment and the net reduction in clearing have been guided by the findings from Aboriginal Heritage surveys and consultation undertaken to date.

The proposed changes to the proposal are unlikely to change the level of public interest and concern in the proposal.

#### Consideration of Whether the Change is Unlikely to Significantly Increase Any Impact that the Proposal May Have on the Environment

The following were considered:

 Values, sensitivity and the quality of the environment which is likely to be impacted

The preliminary key environmental factors for the proposal are:

- Flora and vegetation
- Terrestrial fauna
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Social surroundings.

The proposal extends for 580 km across four IBRA (Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia) bioregions (Geraldton Sandplains, Avon

Wheatbelt, Yalgoo, and Murchison. The majority of the NGI pipeline is within the Eastern Murchison subregion. Targeted surveys have identified two priority flora within the disturbance footprint, *Petrophile ?pauciflora* and *Goodenia neogoodenia*. The proposal will also intersect the Priority 3 Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt PEC. The majority of the vegetation within the development envelope is of "Very Good" or better condition (71 per cent), 17 per cent is considered "Excellent" while 13 per cent is "Degraded to Completely Degraded".

A number of State listed conservation significant fauna were recorded, or are likely to occur, in the development envelope such as Carnaby's black cockatoo, the long-tailed dunnart, the brush-tailed mulgara, the western spiny-tailed skink, the gilled slender blue-tongue and the mallee fowl. The pipeline will also intersect large areas of habitat suitable for the northern shield-backed trapdoor spider (Priority 3). The pipeline will also intersect five priority 1 calcrete PECs.

The NGI pipeline crosses the country of eight Traditional Owner groups and includes places of cultural significance, including waterways, and Aboriginal Heritage sites.

The changes have not raised any additional environmental factors. The proposed changes will result in a decrease in the total clearing of native vegetation and avoidance of Aboriginal Heritage sites and areas of cultural significance. The proposed changes include a decrease in disturbance to the Priority 3 Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt PEC (reduced to 0.28 ha).

#### • Extent (intensity, duration, magnitude and geographic footprint) of the likely impacts

The development envelope remains unchanged at 12,404 ha for the 580 km NGI pipeline. In general, the construction width remains at 30 m, with adjustments in sections required to avoid known Aboriginal Heritage sites or conservation areas. The extent of the native vegetation clearing has been reduced by 4 ha through refinement of the construction methods and pipeline alignment.

• Consequence of the likely impacts (or change)

The changes will result in a decrease in the total clearing of native vegetation. This includes a reduction in the amount of Carnaby's black cockatoo habitat and the Priority 3 Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt PEC.

#### • <u>Resilience of the environment to cope with the impacts or change</u>

The EPA considers that the resilience of the environment to cope with the changes to the proposal will not be different from that of the original proposal.

#### <u>Cumulative impacts with other projects</u>

Cumulative impacts will be considered in the assessment of the changed proposal. The decrease in extent of native vegetation clearing and Priority 3 Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt PEC will not significantly change the cumulative impact of the proposal. • <u>Connections and interactions between parts of the environment to inform</u> <u>holistic view of impacts of the whole environment</u>

A holistic assessment of the changed proposal will be undertaken as part of the EPA's assessment of the proposal. Implemented of the changes to the proposal is not expected to result in a significant change to the connections and interactions between the parts of the environment compared to the original proposal.

 Level of confidence in the prediction of impacts and the success of proposed mitigation

The is no change in the level of confidence in the predicted impacts or the success of proposed mitigation as the proposal has not yet been assessed.

• <u>Public interest about the likely effect of the proposal, if implemented, on the environment, and public information that informs the EPA's assessment</u>

The EPA is of the opinion that public interest in the proposal will likely remain the same.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the EPA considers that the change is unlikely to significantly increase any impact the proposal may have on the environment primarily because:

- There is an overall decrease in native vegetation clearing from 1,934 ha to 1,930 ha.
- There has been a reduction of 0.46 ha of clearing of Priority 3 Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt PEC.
- The changes to the pipeline alignment have been a result of the outcomes of the Aboriginal Heritage surveys undertaken to date. The EPA expects that consultation will continue with the aim of identifying and avoiding any additional sites.

## Schedule 1

# Change to Proposal

Element	Location	Referral Extent	Proposed Extent	Change
Physical eleme	nts			
<ul> <li>Buried gas pipeline</li> <li>Aboveground facilities, including:</li> <li>Rosewick offtake; Ambania compressor station;</li> <li>Yoweragabbie scraper station;</li> <li>Mainline valve stations;</li> <li>Wildara delivery station; and</li> <li>Weebo Inlet Station</li> </ul>	Linear infrastructure extending the length of the development envelope.Figure 1Located at various locations along the pipeline. The location of the Yoweragabbie Scraper Station will have suitable land available for the future option of the installation of an adjoining compressor station.	<ul> <li>Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to approximately 2,287 ha, comprised of approximately:</li> <li>1,934 ha of native vegetation; and</li> <li>353 ha of cleared land/pasture.</li> <li>Within this, the aboveground facilities will require the following:</li> <li>Rosewick offtake – disturbance of up to 0.1 ha;</li> <li>Ambania compressor station – disturbance of up to 4.1 ha;</li> <li>Yoweragabbie scraper station – disturbance of up to 1.1 ha (inclusive of allowance for a future compressor);</li> <li>Mainline valve stations – total disturbance of up to 0.6 ha;</li> <li>Wildara delivery station – disturbance of up to 0.5 ha; and</li> <li>Weebo inlet station– disturbance of up to 0.1 ha.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to approximately 2,261.5 ha, comprised of approximately:</li> <li>1,930 ha of native vegetation; and</li> <li>331.5 ha of cleared land/pasture.</li> <li>Within this, the aboveground facilities will require the following:</li> <li>Rosewick offtake – disturbance of up to 0.1 ha;</li> <li>Ambania compressor station – disturbance of up to 4.1 ha;</li> <li>Yoweragabbie scraper station – disturbance of up to 1.1 ha (inclusive of allowance for a future compressor);</li> <li>Mainline valve stations – total disturbance of up to 0.6 ha;</li> <li>Wildara delivery station – disturbance of up to 0.5 ha; and</li> <li>Weebo inlet station– disturbance of up to 0.1 ha.</li> </ul>	25.5 ha decrease in disturbance footprint. 4 ha decrease in native vegetation clearing
Construction ele	ments			
Construction right of way (CROW), construction turnaround and passing bays and work areas, e.g. for underboring	Located adjacent to the pipeline during construction.	Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to approximately 1,850 ha. Generally a 30 m wide corridor with extra areas for turnarounds and work areas	Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to approximately <b>1,840.5 ha</b> . The clearing or disturbance will be located within native vegetation (approximately 1,519.5 ha) and cleared land/pasture (approximately 321 ha)	9.5 ha decrease in CROW disturbance footprint. Delineation of native vegetation

(i.e. horizontal directional drilling)			Generally a 30 m wide corridor with extra areas for turnarounds and work areas	disturbance footprint
Pipeline laydown areas and construction facilities, including construction camps with mobile offices and ablutions, and	Where practicable, the pipeline laydown areas and temporary construction areas will be located in areas of existing disturbance. Up to six construction camps are proposed to	Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to 395 ha.	Clearing or disturbance within the development envelope of up to <b>377 ha</b> . The clearing or disturbance will be located within native vegetation (approximately 369.5 ha) and cleared land/pasture (approximately 7.5 ha).	18 ha decrease in laydown disturbance footprint. Delineation of native
equipment laydown areas	support the Proposal. The construction camps will be located within the development envelope or broader surrounds. In those circumstances where the camps are located external to the development envelope, they will be in existing cleared areas. The mobile offices and equipment laydown areas will be situated within the construction camps.	Up to six construction camps may be required, each with associated offices, ablutions and laydown areas.	Up to six construction camps may be required, each with associated offices, ablutions and laydown areas.	vegetation disturbance footprint
Turkey nests	Located adjacent to the pipeline during construction.	Up to approximately eight turkey nests may be required for the Proposal. Each turkey nest is anticipated to be approximately 110 m x 90 m.	Up to approximately eight turkey nests may be required for the Proposal. Each turkey nest is anticipated to be approximately 110 m x 90 m.	No change

Construction access points/tracks	The access points/tracks will provide access to the CROW. Construction access will preferentially use existing tracks, where possible. Existing tracks may require improvement works, including widening, to facilitate access of larger vehicles (trucks) and machinery/equipment.	Clearing or disturbance of up 42 ha may be cleared for construction access.	Clearing or disturbance of up to <b>44 ha</b> may be cleared for construction access. The clearing or disturbance will be located within native vegetation (approximately 41 ha) and cleared land/pasture (approximately 3 ha)	2 ha increase in construction access points. Delineation of native vegetation disturbance footprint
Groundwater bore(s)	If required, a groundwater bore would be within the vicinity of the Ambania compressor station. Any other additional groundwater bores, if required along the NGI pipeline, will be identified by the construction Contractor and subject to a water licence	The groundwater bore would be constructed in an existing cleared area on agreement with the landholder. No clearing of remnant native vegetation is anticipated.	The groundwater bore would be constructed in an existing cleared area on agreement with the landholder. No clearing of remnant native vegetation is anticipated.	No change
Operational eler				
Operation of the constructed NGI pipeline and associated above ground facilities		APA will operate the pipeline system in accordance with regulatory and APA standards, and standard management and maintenance practices.	APA will operate the pipeline system in accordance with regulatory and APA standards, and standard management and maintenance practices.	No change
Operations right of way (ROW)	Located adjacent to the asbuilt NGI pipeline centreline	The operational area for the pipeline will generally require a 4 m wide access track located adjacent the pipeline warning markers and a mulched/cleared section over the buried pipeline. The access track will be maintained as a ROW along the NGI pipeline to provide access for operational site maintenance, including servicing, equipment and integrity checks and general site maintenance. The ROW will be located within the Pipeline Licence area. The establishment of the operational	The operational area for the pipeline will generally require a 4 m wide access track located adjacent the pipeline warning markers and a mulched/cleared section over the buried pipeline. The access track will be maintained as a ROW along the NGI pipeline to provide access for operational site maintenance, including servicing, equipment and integrity checks and general site maintenance. The ROW will be located within the Pipeline Licence area. The	No change

	ROW will be limited in the western section of the pipeline (between approximately KP0 to KP80) to minimise the alignment's intersection with agricultural properties. It is anticipated that the operational ROW will have a disturbance area of approximately 200 ha.	establishment of the operational ROW will be limited in the western section of the pipeline (between approximately KP0 to KP80) to minimise the alignment's intersection with agricultural properties. It is anticipated that the operational ROW will have a disturbance area of approximately 200 ha.	
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Figure 1: Northern Goldfields Interconnect Pipeline



Figure 2: Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt (PEC)